

## ORLEANS COUNTY MONITOR

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## INFANTILE PARALYSIS

The infantile paralysis epidemic in New York City is baffling the experts of the country, if indeed there are any experts in this disease. The fact appears to remain that no one knows anything about it. Theory after theory as to its origin and spread are exploded. No positive means of diagnosis until actual paralysis has set in has been found. No treatment for staying its progress has been discovered, and means for restoring paralyzed parts are limited and uncertain except in the less severe cases.

Quarantine has not proved efficient in stamping out the malady as the epidemics in Vermont have proved. In practically every instance the epidemic has died out in the fall after cool weather began. Isolation in New York has not stayed the spread of the disease as the present situation there shows. Diet cannot play a large part in its spread. Cleanliness has not prevented its entry into the most modern sections of towns in Vermont and sections of New York. The fly theory of its spread, the domestic animal theory, the dry season theory and all other theories find their Waterloo.

While not an explanation in any sense, the Monitor wonders if a Vermont physician, who has had to do with very many cases of the disease in Vermont's experience of 1914, has not stated the case about right when he says:

"There is no directly traceable means of the cause and spread of infantile paralysis any more than there is of the cause and spread of common grip. Grip will appear in a town without warning, there will be an epidemic of it, taking one member of the family and skipping the others, but spreading over the entire place, and finally the outside districts will 'have the grip.' Isolated families and persons, who have not been in town, will 'come down with the grip.' Again a whole family will have it, and as well known, whole sections of the country will have an epidemic of the grip. Rich and poor, high and low, clean and filthy, well fed and poorly fed, all 'take it.' Grip is considered more or less contagious today, but where the disease comes from, where it goes and how it is spread, is little known. It is not as serious or as fatal as paralysis, but the mystery of its coming, its spread and its disappearance resembles that of paralysis in a marked degree."

If there be any virtue in this theory, the best preventative is a healthy body, fresh air and an open system. The general health is always an important factor in the prevention of disease.

The Monitor is glad to see the newspaper sentiment of St. Johnsbury strongly opposed to Sunday baseball.

Senator Page would seem to have scored his first point over Allen M. Fletcher in the senatorial publicity campaign on the vocational educational matter. If Senator Page can score enough more such points he will be re-elected.

The Barton Monitor asks what has become of the telephone investigation and the Rutland Herald passes the query on to Gov. Gates.—Montpelier Argus.

Since Mr. Fletcher is the man who has taken most of the "cussing" regarding this investigation, he may have something to say at this time. If so, Mr. Fletcher, now is a good time to speak right out in meeting.

The Essex County Herald, which has been printed at Newport for a year, by D. W. Hildreth, has gone back to its old home at Island Pond and will be under the direction of C. C. Lord, an experienced newspaper man. If any one can put the Herald on its feet Mr. Lord can do it, but the struggle to make it an actual business enterprise will be a difficult one. The allotted field for the Herald is small, and a country newspaper must have a sizeable territory in order to live and prosper.

## WANTS AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OF RURAL CREDITS.

We propose to promote by every practicable means our agricultural interests, and we include in this program an effective system of rural credits. We favor the wise conservation of our natural resources. We desire not only that they shall be safeguarded, but that they shall be adequately developed and used to the utmost public advantage.—Mr. Hughes' Speech of Acceptance.

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

## Cave vs. Gates.

The Bennington Banner observes of two candidates for the position of state auditor, to be vacated by the promotion to the governorship of Horace F. Graham, that Benjamin Gates of Montpelier is best known and that Thomas H. Cave, jr., of Barre is the best trained. This being the case there should not be any question in the minds of Vermont voters whom to choose for the office. No matter how popular Mr. Gates may be, nor what his rare qualities of good fellowship may be if Mr. Cave by virtue of his experience is the best qualified, the latter should be overwhelmingly nominated for the position of auditor. It is peculiarly an office in which business training and not political favor should dictate the selection of its holder.—Rutland News.

## Vermont Philanthropists.

The recent gift of \$20,000 to Heaton hospital, Montpelier, by the Hon. Ira C. Calef of Washington, brings him well up in the front rank of Vermont philanthropists. This makes \$41,000 donated to that institution; his gift a few days ago of \$5,000 for the current expenses of Goddard seminary brings his total of gifts to that institution to a figure known, probably, to no one but himself. And his donation of \$20,000 to the City hospital at Barre a couple of years ago shows him catholic in his charity, as well as generous in his bestowments. His gifts have not yet equalled those of ex-Gov. John A. Mead, but they are rapidly approaching that limit. And these two men are setting an example that may well be followed by other Vermont men of wealth.—Springfield Reporter.

## A Senatorship Summary.

The entry of Governor Gates into the senatorial contest makes a triangular fight of it—Page, Fletcher, Gates. Others may follow, but it is unlikely. The direct primary discourages men of modest ambition, who are lacking in political machinery or munitions of warfare. The prospect is, therefore, that Page will be succeeded either by himself, or by Fletcher or Gates.

Carroll S. Page has long been a well-known figure in Vermont public and business life. In the latter he introduced himself to a wide clientele, and in spite of later official duties he retains a close touch, through his calfskin and his banking activities with the people of Vermont. Away back in 1890, he broke the old promotion rule and beat Colonel Woodbury for the governorship in a memorable campaign. Having appointed Redfield Proctor United States senator to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of George F. Edmunds, he was himself appointed senator in turn at the hands of Senator Proctor's son, when the latter, as governor, had the appointing of his father's successor. With one reelection, Senator Page has now served eight years.

A question presents itself to the Vermont electorate in two-phase form—Shall we retire Mr. Page? If so, who shall we select, Mr. Fletcher or Mr. Gates? Vermont's invariable custom for many years has been to retain her senators in office until they either die or resign. In no case during the present generation has a senator come up for re-election during the term. So it would appear that the precedents—in which Vermont is strong—favor Mr. Page. This is not reason, or argument, but history.

Has Senator Page's record earned him another term? This is a broad question, but one of vital import. Opinions will differ—and opinions may be affected by prejudice in behalf of other aspirants. The common view is that Page's senatorial career has been far from brilliant; that though regarded as a conscientious and painstaking worker, he belongs to what might be called the "weak majority" among the members of the senate. He has not upheld the standard of Edmunds and Morrill or their predecessors. His name is not identified with any measure that will cause him to be remembered. He is best known as a careful, conservative, punctual, hard-working member.

But it should be said on the other side that conditions are not the same in the senate as they were in the old days. The country is larger and Vermont is smaller relatively and even her senators lose in the perspective of proportion. Then for the latter part of Page's eight years, which should have been the most notable in accomplishment, his party has been in the minority and all Republican senators have been more or less in eclipse. These are handicaps, but Page has shown no ability to surmount them. Gallinger and Smoot are both from small states and both are Republicans, yet they both figure prominently and effectively.

Judging from the record thus far, we may expect from Senator Page in the next six years, if he is returned, just about the kind of service he has given in the past—mediocre. His gain in prestige in experience due to lengthened service will be offset, we estimate, by his advancing years—Senator Page is now seventy-three and will be eighty at the close of another term. We question the wisdom of keeping in the senate men so far past their allotted time limit, even though they are as vigorous as Mr. Page now seems.

One turns, not altogether convinced respecting Senator Page, to the consideration of those who would succeed him. First in the field was former Governor Fletcher. Of his keen mentality and high ability in many directions no one who knows him has ever fully studied this man can have any question. With these qualities he couples what his supporters call courage and his enemies, pugnacity. He knows in public life no friends—and he has plenty of the other kind. Fletcher possesses the idea perhaps born of experience that about everybody has ulterior designs on the state and that he is its sole champion. A rich man himself, whose wealth came largely from corporation activities he shows no mercy, even regard, for the corporations of the state, to judge by his record as governor. Once he sets his hand to the accomplishment of a purpose held by himself to be worthy, he is ruthless in his methods toward those who stand in his way, granting them little of the liberty of judgment and assigning them little of the element of true citizenship he claims for

himself. He is not satisfied to conquer an opponent; he must despatch him.

The vision of Allen M. Fletcher at the head of a political machine—as he would be if chosen senator—is not one calculated to ease the slumbers of a great many people in Vermont—aside from those to whom it would be a veritable nightmare. He had a bitter experience as governor, which left its sting, and his campaign for the senatorship is largely undertaken for the purpose of justifying his action in the sight of the people and incidentally confounding those who hoped they had retired Mr. Fletcher for good. As a senator, even his enemies concede Mr. Fletcher would be fearless, independent and progressive—by which some would understand that he would assail the "interests" mercilessly. Another LaFollette would be about the expectation of Mr. Fletcher in the senate.

As to Mr. Fletcher's chances—they do not appear promising, although appearances may be deceptive. He is opposed by substantially all the old-time Republicans. The professional and business classes are against him. Not a large proportion of the members of the legislature with whom he has served favor him. He is placing his faith on the men on the farms, in the shops, on the street—we know not the "interests" Mr. Fletcher is challenging the "mountain rule"—a long-honored custom which gives each side of the state one senator instead of placing both in one district. To offset these handicaps Mr. Fletcher has abundant means which he will employ legitimately, we believe, in promoting his candidacy. He has an able campaign manager in former Speaker Plimley. And he will be materially assisted by the division of the field caused by the entry of the third candidate.

As to Governor Gates, he stated the exact truth when he said in his modest announcement that he had received many requests to permit the use of his name. Much pressure has been exerted upon him, both by those who are dissatisfied with the other candidates and by sincere admirers of Mr. Gates. He enjoyed the unique experience of being drafted for the governorship and his record as governor has been one of pleasing success. One journal stated it correctly when it said that if all of Mr. Gates's friends voted for him he would be an easy winner.

But will they? While continuing their sincere regard for him, and joining heartily in praise of his official course thus far, they honestly doubt whether Mr. Gates is fully equipped and especially fitted for the very different duties of a United States senatorship. They question whether he would be an improvement upon Page, or the equal of Fletcher. It may be that in the final analysis they regard for him will be so strong that it will conquer their misgivings and carry their votes for him, but in general Vermonters are apt to be governed by their judgment rather than their affections. If they could unreservedly feel that Governor Gates would make a stronger senator it would give them the keenest satisfaction to support him.

We are aware that this is a rather negative and confusing summing up of the senatorial situation, but we are not alone in this state of mind. From many quarters is heard the lamentation, "Oh that Vermont had now some really big, brainy man of large promise, young or middle-aged, whom she could send to the senate with assurance that he would grow ripe under the experience of years until our state would be flattered in his possession." Some men who would measure up to the traditions of the past and cause the nation to owe Vermont a debt of gratitude. There may, indeed, in our opinion, there are such men, but under the peculiar conditions that now exist it is almost idle to expect them to appear. It will rest between the three announced candidates, and may the best man of the three win.—Randolph Herald & News.

## Alfalfa Can Be Grown in Franklin County.

A little over one year ago 25 alfalfa demonstrations were started in Franklin county. Today there is a successful alfalfa plot in every one of the demonstrations.

The plan was to demonstrate just what methods must be used to make a success of alfalfa in this county and it has been done. There were eight different plots in all and with but two exceptions the same plot is leading in each demonstration. The demonstrations have proved that several things are absolutely necessary for successful alfalfa production in northern Vermont.

1. The soil must be limed. In this work the soil was tested and enough lime applied to meet the requirement.

2. Inoculation must be provided. The pure culture furnished by the federal department of agriculture was used and produced the inoculation in every case. To sow alfalfa without inoculation is to invite failure from the very beginning.

3. The Grimm variety is the best. In every demonstration it has outclassed the common so far that the extra cost does not seem a consideration when results are considered.

4. Both spring and summer seeding was tried and the summer seeding shows much the better in nearly every case.

In order to acquaint the farmers with these facts and allow them to judge for themselves a brief field meeting was held at the demonstration plots during the month of June. Nineteen meetings were held with a total attendance of 244. At these meetings the farmers learned the necessity of liming and of inoculating and using Grimm seed sown from July 15 to Aug. 1.

Over one hundred farmers have secured the services of the county agent to assist them in starting from one to five acres of alfalfa either this year or next. With this number of men putting in the crop in this way the best known methods, alfalfa growing is sure to receive a boom in Franklin county.

## Advanced Case.

"Your friend Dubwaite seems to have a very good opinion of himself." "I should say so! Why, Dubwaite thinks a bronze plate will some day mark the street corner where he stands every afternoon to wait for a suburban car."

## VERMONT NOTES

There was an attendance of 20 at the Johnson summer school, which closed Friday.

Congressman Greene, State Treasurer Scott and Secretary of State Bailey, are the first to file their nomination papers with the secretary of state having complied with the law in regard to the number of signatures to the petitions.

Ira C. Calef of Washington gave Friday \$20,000 to the Barre City hospital, making a total of \$40,000 he has donated to that institution in three years. Hospitals in Montpelier, Burlington and Providence, R. I., and Goddard seminary in Barre, recently benefited by Mr. Calef's philanthropy to the extent of \$66,000.

The Vermont State Bankers association meets at Richford Wednesday next. There will be a visit to the principle places of business. The principle addresses will be by William Reed, assistant cashier, National City Bank of New York and C. W. Barron, editor of the Boston News Bureau. There is a banquet in the evening.

Colonel Kittredge Haskins, aged 80 years, former congressman and postmaster, died at his home in Brattleboro Monday morning after a month's illness with kidney disease. He was taken ill while attending the Episcopal diocesan convention in Montpelier and his condition has been critical ever since that time.

Automobilists will no doubt welcome a reduced admission price for cars at the Vermont State Fair to be held at White River Junction Sept. 12, 13, 14 and 15. The executive committee of the fair commission has decided to make a universal reduction of 50 per cent on admission and all parking privileges for automobiles.

Mrs. George W. Duncan, wife of the proprietor of the Holland Hotel, Rutland, died Sunday of a bullet wound received Saturday when her husband visited the apartment house in which she was living with their child. Duncan was arrested charged with murder. The police say that he had been jealous of his wife and ordered her from the hotel a week before.

Otis Williams of Topsham, who was convicted of murder as an accomplice in the death of Joseph Felch, was sentenced to life imprisonment Saturday. The case probably will go to the supreme court on exceptions. A motion to admit to bail Mrs. Joseph Felch, who had been indicted jointly with Williams, was overruled. Her trial was continued to the September term of the Orange county court.

Some idea may be gained of the honey producing possibilities of Vermont from the fact that the firm of J. E. Crane & Son of Middlebury have for some time been bringing in from its apiaries an average of a ton of honey a day. Crane honey is known throughout New England and far beyond its borders, and the containers used by this firm carry the name of Vermont to far distant points.

At the annual meet of the State Automobile club at the Randolph Trotting course Thursday about 800 people were present and about 135 automobiles were on the ground. The Rev. Fraser Metzger gave the address of welcome to the guests. He was followed by the president of the club, Dr. Cleaves of Montpelier, Lester Greene, secretary and Governor Gates and State Road Commissioner Bates.

The Palace mill of the Vermont Marble company in West Rutland was burned Friday, causing a loss of \$60,000, partially covered by insurance. It was one of the largest mills and its destruction will greatly inconvenience the company, as it was being run at full capacity on important orders. It was a mill with 20 gangs. All of the machinery and stock were ruined. It is believed that the fire started from a hot box.

At a meeting Friday evening at the rooms of the Rutland Business Men's association at which Dr. H. D. Holton of Brattleboro presided, the Vermont Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis was organized. The following officers were elected: President Thomas Wagner of Rutland; honorary vice presidents, Gov. C. W. Gates, Franklin, and F. C. Partridge, Proctor; secretary, H. W. Slocum, Burlington; treasurer, A. W. Hill, Burlington.

## It Pays To Advertise

In advertising sent from this office, which appeared in the state press last week, the subject being, "Senator Page Makes a Speech," the following paragraph appeared:

"The Vermonter in Washington who heard Senator Page's speech writes further on the Situation. He says that the Hoke Smith vocational educational bill is on the senate calendar, but that it will not be acted on this session."

This information, received by the Allen M. Fletcher Senatorial Club, presented the condition as it then existed in Washington. The following news item appeared in the St. Albans Messenger on Friday, August 4:

"Washington, Aug. 4.—The vocational educational bill which passed the senate the other day without debate or notice of any kind, is to be pressed upon the House in an eleventh hour attempt to secure enactment before the adjournment of Congress.

It had been thought that the Senate calendar was too crowded to allow room for this bill at this time, and the plan had been to postpone the enactment of this legislation till the December session. Favorable reports on the bill were made some weeks ago by both committees which handled it."

Is it not true, Senator Page, that the Smith Vocational Educational bill would have passed the Senate if you had not spoken or voted for it?

Is it not true Senator Page, that for purely political purposes you at this time urged yourself upon the Senate to make a speech upon a bill which had been favorably reported and which as the St. Albans Messenger news item says, "Passed the senate the other day without notice of any kind."

We have no disposition to minimize the importance of any bill which provides better educational facilities for the youth of the land, but we respectfully suggest that Senator Page's record is the issue and in the words of the Vergennes Enterprise, "Senator Page's Vocational Educational bill was a fizzle and was lost in the shuffle."

What is there about Senator Page so sacrosanct as to forbid legitimate and truthful criticism of any of his public or official acts?

## Will Mr. Page Answer?

The Allen M. Fletcher Senatorial Club  
Northfield, Vermont

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## No. 19

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Special sessions of the Probate Court will be held at the office of F. W. BALDWIN, in BARTON, on the second and fourth Fridays of each month in the afternoon; and at the office of COLBY STODARD, in ORLEANS, in the afternoon of the third Friday of each month. Parties desiring to transact Probate business at Barton or Orleans should notify the Judge in advance, that he may take the necessary papers.  
The Probate office at NEWPORT will be open every day, except Sundays and holidays; but those coming from a distance, as far as possible, should make special appointments with the Court in advance.  
RUFUS W. SPEAR, JUDGE.

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